

Claims

Specifically, I claim:

1. (Twice amended) An apparatus for covering an electrical outlet comprising:
 - a faceplate;
 - a body formed of compressible insulating material having a hollow opening corresponding to a pair of female electrical elements of an electrical outlet;
 - a thin layer of insulating material within said hollow opening of said body covering said female electrical elements of said electrical outlet, said thin layer of insulating material having slits only large enough to allow an electrical plug access through said slits of the thin layer of insulating material to engage with the electrical outlet; and
 - a moveable assembly covering each female electrical outlet including urging extensions and covering extensions, said covering extensions permitting a gap therebetween when the urging extensions are pressed, said moveable assembly being located between the electrical outlet faceplate, the body and the layer of insulating material, the covering extensions being moveable from a first position whereupon the covering extensions block access to the female electrical elements of the electrical outlet by an electrical plug, to a second position permitting access to female electrical elements of the electrical outlet by said electrical plug and wherein the gap between the covering extensions is widened, said covering extensions being moved from said first position to said second position when the urging extensions are pressed together toward each other, and the covering extensions move from the second position to the first position when the body of insulated material and the faceplate are compressed as the plug is removed, thereby blocking access to the female electrical elements of the electrical outlet;
2. (Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the body of insulating material is formed of soft, insulation material to protect against injury by a child falling against said apparatus.
3. (Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 further comprising a thick, compressible, electrical insulator affixed to the front of an existing standard electrical outlet faceplate, whereby a person is protected against electrical shock.
4. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the body is made of thick, compressible, insulating material surrounding the outlet, further having a hollow opening corresponding to each set of female electrical elements of the electrical outlet.

5. (Twice amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the body is made of material consisting of polyolefin, polyethylene, cellulae elastomer, thermoplastic elastomer or closed cell foam type of insulating material of a predetermined size.

6. (Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said thin layer of insulating material with the hollow opening covering the female electrical elements of the electrical outlet is penetrable and thin enough to allow the electrical plug sufficient access to female electrical elements of the electrical outlet upon penetration of the thin layer of insulating material by the plug.

7. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said slits only partially penetrate the insulating thin layer thereby maintaining a complete seal over the outlet until perforated.

8. (Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 further comprising insulating, rigid extensions affixed to an electrical outlet faceplate, covering a set of female electrical elements of said electrical outlet, prohibiting electrical plug access to the electrical outlet until being urged apart, thus allowing the plug access to the outlet, whereby a person is protected against electrical shock.

9. (Twice amended) The apparatus of Claim 8 comprising:

(a) a plurality of covering extensions of substantially sufficient length and size to physically cover a set of female electrical elements of an electrical outlet;

(b) a plurality of urging extensions of substantially sufficient length and size to physically enable a person to urge the covering extensions apart; and

(c) a substantial means for joining the covering extensions and the urging extensions.

10. (Twice amended) The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the rigid elements are thin enough to allow the electrical plug sufficient access to the female electrical elements of the electrical outlet while maintaining contact with the metal prongs of the plug.

11. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the covering extensions are thin enough to allow flexibility and mechanical movement of the movable assemblies over a protruding female electrical outlet.

12. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the faceplate contains channels that guide protrusions on the urging extensions of the assemblies when the urging extensions are first pressed in one direction, such as against a wall, then squeezed together so that said protrusions engage with said channels of the faceplate thus creating a locking/latching mechanism.

13. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the faceplate has a hump that extends therefrom that guards against finger access to the electrical outlet.

14. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the covering extensions of the movable assemblies contain nipples that fit into the holes of the male prongs of a plug thus enabling the covering extensions to lock a plug into place.

15. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the thin layer of insulating material is removed thus comprising:

a faceplate;

a body formed of compressible, insulating material having a hollow opening corresponding to a pair of female electrical elements of an electrical outlet; and

a moveable assembly covering each female electrical outlet, including urging extensions and covering extensions, said covering extensions permitting a gap in between when said urging extensions are pressed together; said moveable assembly being located between the electrical outlet faceplate and the body of insulating material; the covering extensions blocking access by an electrical plug to the female electrical elements of the electrical outlet until moved from a first position to a second position by squeezing together, wherein the gap between the covering extensions is widened, thus opened, thereby permitting access to female electrical elements of the electrical outlet by said electrical plug.

16. The apparatus of Claim 1 with an additional spacer added between said apparatus and a wall to compensate for excessively protruding outlet sockets.